

McCormick Bridal Is Called Off as Guests Assemble

Chicago Society Sensation in
Ending of Miss Mary Landon
Baker's Romance.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—The wedding of Mr. Alister McCormick and Miss Mary Landon Baker, two of the leading members of Chicago's younger social set, was called off this afternoon at the last minute. Miss Baker, daughter of Mr. Alfred L. Baker, a La Salle street broker, was reported suffering from a nervous collapse, and unable to go through with the ceremony.

Dr. Samuel J. Walker, father of Miss Helen Louise Walker, who was to have been Miss Baker's only attendant, was called to the house. When seen later he refused to discuss the case.

Crowds waited at the Fourth Presbyterian Church, where the ceremony was to be performed, while others were at the Baker home, where the reception was to be held. Mr. McCormick remained at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. Hamilton McCormick.

The ceremony was to have been performed at 4 o'clock. Shortly after that hour two men appeared at the door of the Baker home and told the doorman to admit no one for the reception, as the ceremony had been called off.

It was rumored some time ago that an engagement had been broken. At the time this was denied by Mr. and Mrs. Baker and by Mr. and Mrs. McCormick.

The wedding was to have been one of the most important of the winter. Hundreds of prominent persons had been invited to the ceremony and reception.

Mr. Leander J. McCormick was to have been best man for his brother, and a cousin, Mr. Leander McCormick Goodrich, an attaché of the British Embassy, came from Washington to serve as usher.

Others who were to be attendants included Messrs. Harold Fowler McCormick, Jr., son of Mr. Harold F. McCormick, recently divorced by Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick, and Gordon M. McCormick, cousins, and Henry Channon, Joseph T. Ryerson and Albert B. Dewey.

Mr. McCormick and Miss Baker were childhood friends, and have appeared together in amateur theatricals. Their romance has been widely and pleasantly commented on by Chicago society for years.

MURAT HALSTEAD'S GRANDDAUGHTER WED

Miss Hildegard Halstead
Married to Lieut. Balthurst.

In the chantry of St. Thomas's Church yesterday afternoon Miss Hildegard Halstead, daughter of Mrs. Clarence Halstead, was married to Lieut. Charles Richard Balthurst, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., by the Rev. Dr. Ernest M. Stiles, rector. The small reception was in the St. Regis.

The bride was escorted to the chancel by her brother, Mr. F. De Ford Halstead. Her attendants were Mrs. Leland Emery, Miss Alice Halstead, a cousin; Dorothy Mallory and Martha Vail. Capt. Robert Balthurst served as best man for his brother, and the ushers were Lieuts. Miller, Butler and Rhodes, classmates of the bridegroom at the Military Academy in West Point.

The bride was graduated from Miss Porter's School in Farmington, Conn. She is a granddaughter of the late Murat Halstead of Cincinnati.

MISS LORRAINE TO WED.

Richard Northcott to Marry American Singer in London.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—Miss Alys Lorraine, American soprano, will be married to Richard Northcott at St. George's Church, Hanover Square, on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 2:30 P. M. The ceremony will be announced by newspapers to-day. For fifteen years Miss Lorraine has been one of the most prominent American singers upon the concert and opera stage in Europe.

ON PUBLIC VIEW TO-DAY
9 A. M. TO 4 P. M.

ON THE PREMISES
No. 78 Riverside Drive
(S. E. Corner 80th Street)

The Handsome
Furniture and Embellishments
TO BE SOLD AT UNRESTRICTED PUBLIC SALE
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BY ORDER OF
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ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, JANUARY 4TH AND 5TH
BEGINNING PROMPTLY AT 10 O'CLOCK A. M.

Catalogues may be obtained on the premises.

The Sale Will Be Conducted by MR. THOMAS E. KIRBY
and his assistants, MR. OTTO BERNET and MR. H. H. PARKE.
AMERICAN ART ASSOCIATION, Managers
Madison Sq. South, Entrance 6 E. 23d Street, New York.

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PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

NEW YORK.

Mr. and Mrs. William Sloane will return to-day from Mr. Kisco, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry White will go to Washington January 10.

Mr. Horace Havemeyer has returned from Washington.

Mr. Albert Eugene Gallatin will give a dinner party to-night at Sherry's.

Mr. Arthur Butler Twombly will give a luncheon party to-day at the St. Regis.

Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt entertained ten friends at luncheon yesterday at Sherry's.

Mrs. Whitelaw Reid will give a dinner and dance to-night at 451 Madison avenue.

Mrs. John Clinton Gray will start to-morrow for Palm Beach to pass the remainder of the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Whitney Carpenter, Jr., have taken an apartment at the Gotham Hotel.

Mrs. Robert Waller of 45 East Sixty-second street will give a dance to-night at the Ritz-Carlton for her grandniece, Miss Mary Sheffield.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Remsen of Baltimore are at the Seville for the winter. Dr. Remsen formerly was president of Johns Hopkins University.

Count and Countess Laszlo Szechenyi, who were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney in Westbury, L. I., will go to-day to Washington.

Mrs. Charles Potter Kling will give a dance in her home, 7 East Fifty-first street, on the night of January 3 for Miss Kate Hampton Darlington, debutante daughter of Bishop and Mrs. James Henry Darlington.

Miss Alice Trubee Davison, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pomeroy Davison, will be married to Mr. Arthur G. Bates this afternoon in St. John's Chapel, Locust Valley, L. I. The reception will be at Peacock Point, the home of the bride's parents. New York guests will leave the Pennsylvania Station on a special train at 3:15.

The British Ambassador and Lady Geddes gave a children's party yesterday for their five children.

Rear Admiral and Mrs. Robert E. Coontz gave a dinner at Wardman Park Hotel last night for Miss Lady Jane Ruby, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. James J. Ruby.

Suffragan Bishop and Mrs. Herbert Shipman and Mr. George Lodi of New York are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Edson Bradley at 1323 Connecticut avenue, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley will be in New York late this month and for the first time in the winter will be at 998 Fifth avenue.

At Washington Hotels.

The Willard—Frederick Stewart, Mrs. John B. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. R. Waldo and J. J. Kendall.

The Washington—W. T. Driscoll, E. A. Hamilton and Ray Wilson.

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He is a brother of Mr. George Buntis Paine, who married Miss Helen Ellis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Strathers Ellis of Fox Hill Farm, Bryn Mawr.

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Miss Church Makes Her Debut at a Dinner and Dance

Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Church
Give Large Party for
Debutante.

By W. J. HENDERSON.

"Parsifal" was performed at the Metropolitan Opera House yesterday afternoon to the new year of opera. The sacred music drama was heard by a large audience. It was again given in English, which seems to be the order for the present season. Miss Florence Easton was the Kundry. The Metropolitan is fortunate in possessing more than one competent impersonator of Wagner's singular heroine. Miss Easton's interpretation of the part is of the highest praise that can be given because of its remarkably fine dramatic and musical qualities.

The singer brings to the part a large intelligence, which has developed a well rounded and satisfying presentation of the meaning of the text and music. In action Miss Easton is discreet in its employment of gesture, pose and facial expression. She neither overacts nor slights anything. One is never in doubt as to the significance of her feelings. So, too, in her singing she delights the ear with a continual outpour of beautiful tones, while she reaches the mind with well planned methods of expression.

The other members of the cast were Miss Whitehill in the touching representation of Amfortas; Mr. Sembach as Parsifal; Mr. Blasi as Gurnemanz; and the sum of Wagner's dramatic and musical genius usually heard in this work. Mr. Bodansky conducted, and the drama moved through its various episodes with its customary solemnity and grace.

Montezuma's opera, "L'Amore del Tre Re," was given in the evening for the first time this season. When this lyric drama was introduced to this public there was a chorus of critical praise punctuated by a few cymbal dashes of condemnation. The praise was based on the purity of the style, the noble tragic quality of the music, which Montezuma had written to the splendid dramatic power of Sen Benelli. The condemnation was aimed at the want of the objects called point and climax in the same measure.

Mrs. Edwin A. Strong gave a dinner in advance of Mr. and Mrs. Church's debut at 555 Park avenue for her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Strong, and the guests were Misses Marjorie Hughes, Dorothy Schiffer, Louise Tripp, Dorothy Morrill, Katherine V. Adams, Mary Louise Deming and Camilla Livingston. Also Messrs. Laurence Bookout, George Purdy Hall, William Mathews, Paul Munroe, Juan L. Tripp, Adams Ashforth Russell Lowell and John Snowden.

Mrs. Okey B. Madsen gave a dinner to-night at the Colony Club for her daughter, Miss Marjorie Madsen, and some of her school friends, and after it a dance at 8 East Sixty-fifth street, where Mr. and Mrs. Madsen are passing the winter.

The guests, numbering 150, all were girls and young men at home from school.

John T. Lee of 426 Park avenue gave there yesterday afternoon a tea and dance for her young daughter, Miss Marion Lee, who has been at home from school during the last few weeks of the winter. Her daughter was a schoolmate of the latter and boys who later this week will return to their studies.

All the subscribers to the Holiday dances, for which Mrs. William R. K. Taylor is chairman, were entertained yesterday afternoon in the room of the Ritz-Carlton to introduce her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Taylor, who is to be married to Mr. and Mrs. Bradley will be in New York late this month and for the first time in the winter will be at 998 Fifth avenue.

At Washington Hotels.

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